2. To consider the recommendations made by the Inter-Ministerial Working Group on Cyber Law & Cyber Forensics & finalize the amendments to the IT Act, 2000.

3. To consider and recommend suitable legislation for data protection (privacy) in the IT Act, 2000.

4. To consider the feasibility of making the IT Act, 2000 technology neutral and recommended necessary amendments to the IT Act, 2000.

5. To consider the additional feedback and suggestions received by the Government and recommend suitable amendments to the IT Act 2000.

6. To consider the issues of regulation of operations of cyber cafes and blocking of websites within the IT Act.

7. To consider the matter of India signing the European Cyber Crimes Treaty and make suitable recommendations.

8. The Expert Committee shall submit its report within a period of six weeks.

Reduction in Access Deficit Charges

*58. SHRIMATI SARLA MAHESHWARI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have made an aassessment of loss to the BSNL due to the TRAI's decision to reduce Access Deficit Charges (ADC);

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is a fact that this loss is going to adversely affect the BSNL's responsibility in providing telephone facilities in rural areas; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to improve the facilities in the rural/ backward areas?

THE MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS AND INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (SHRI DAYANIDHI MARAN): (a) to (d) On 6th January, 2005, the Telecom Regulatory Authority of India (TRAI) announced a

revised Access Deficit Charges (ADC) regime effective from 01.02.2005. This was part of the annual review as announced by TRAI in its last Interconnection Usage Charge (IUC) Regulation effective from 01.02.2004. The new regime envisages reduction in ADC contribution for national long distance calls to 30 Paise from earlier slab of 30 P, 50 P and 80 P and for international long distance calls it envisages reduction in ADC to Rs. 2.50 per minute for outgoing calls and Rs. 3.25 for incoming calls as earlier ADC of Rs. 4.25 per minute applicable for both incoming and outgoing calls.

According to TRAl, the amount of ADC to be provided to BSNL is estimated to be Rs. 4954 crores for BSNL, which is comparable with the previous ADC estimations of Rs. 4792 crores. However BSNL has stated that it would amount to reduction in amount by Rs. 1254 crores.

The exact impact of traffic pattern at this stage cannot be estimated due to multiplicity of factors contributing to traffic growth.

The support to new telephone facilities in rural/backward areas, USO Fund has been created on 1.4.2002 and total disbursement to service providers is approximately Rs. 1700 crores upto 28.2.2005.

Problems faced by Mumbai

*59. SHRI MURLI DEORA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Planning Commission had convened its first-over meeting to deal exclusively with the infrastructural, social and economical problems plaguing Mumbai, the country's financial capital and if so, the decisions taken thereon;

(b) whether Chief Minister of Maharashtra had given a representation to the Prime Minister when he was on visit to Mumbai in January, 2005, and discussed the specific issues of Mumbai;

(c) if so, the details thereof and the decisions taken thereon;

(d) whether the Prime Minister has himself taken an initiative to spruce up the city to make it a Shanghai; and

(e) if so, the plans and the amount allocated for implementation?